

Zip. In fact it simply is a makeweight argument in opposition to this very valuable important piece of legislation. Now we get down finally to the amendment, the grandfather clause. If the grandfather rights are put in this bill, for all intents and purposes this bill will not take effect for 25 years. It will not take effect for 25 years because it will only affect those adoptions that take place from and after the date hereof and most adoptions that take place involve infants and infants will take 25 years to mature and, therefore, only those infants at the end of 25 years will be able to obtain their records. So it strikes me and it seems important to me that we say as a matter of public policy that the records shall be open when an adopted person reaches age 25 and they shall be open with respect to all adoptions that have taken place in Nebraska, irrespective of what the ground rules were or people might have thought they were at the time of the adoption five years ago, ten years ago, fifteen years ago or twenty years ago. Now I happen to have a personal interest in this bill because my mother is an adopted child. My mother is an adopted child and I did not know that fact until I was in college. I always thought that my grandparents were my natural grandparents, and it was only after their death that my mother told me to the contrary, and it was only after their death that I had occasion to meet my natural grandfather, and my natural grandfather had not known his natural family, had not known his natural family literally all of his adult life, and I met my natural grandfather when he was 80 years old and it was a very warm and meaningful occasion, not just for me and my mother and my children but also for my grandfather who realized that he had a family and he was glad to have that reunion take place. And the only way that could take place is because through various and sundry means my mother ascertained the location of her natural father and she shouldn't have had to engage in the various and sundry extra legal means. The records should be open for all of our adopted children. At this time I would move the amendment to the committee amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the committee amendments and the bill but I will speak on the committee amendment